

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday March 21st 2004

Silent Key

It is with regret that we announce the recent passing of John Scanlon EI4L from Wexford. John will be sadly missed by his family and his friends in amateur radio.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis.

IRTS Awards

One of the highlights of any IRTS AGM is the presentation of awards. These are for service to the hobby, home construction and operating achievements. At the recent AGM in Limerick the following awards were presented: The Collins Cup was awarded to John Breen EI7BV to honour his great work on behalf of the experimenter community both before and during the 2003 World Radio Conference. John was head of the Irish delegation and he worked closely with the society and the IARU representatives at the conference. Dan Lloyd EI3AE was awarded the Conway Cup for his services to the hobby. Dan is well known to most of the EI experimenters from his role as the Marine Surveyor who conducted most of the experimenter examinations in recent years.

Following his retirement he undertook the role as Chief Morse Examiner for the IRTS. The Arup Cup was presented to Aedan O'Meara EI3EG for his contribution to the hobby over the years both through his work with Cork Radio Club, the Cork Repeater Group and more recently his great achievement in getting the Cork Amateur TV repeater up and running. Aedan is a white stick operator. The Presidents Cup was presented to South Dublin Radio Club in recognition of their great work in promoting cross border relations through their twinning arrangements with the Glengormley Electronics and Radio Society.

The Sheila Piper Cup was presented to Dave Moore EI4BZ for his long service with both the Newsletter and the Radio news. Dave has been actively with the news services of the Society for the past seventeen years.

This year, probably for the first time ever, both of the awards for home construction were presented to the same person. Tony Breathnach EI5EM presented two excellent examples of home construction to the judges and took home the Folan Shield and the Kevin Freeney Trophy.

The main awards outside of field days and the counties contest are based on the IOTA and CQWW Contests. This year all these trophies have gone to County Cork. The leading island station was EJ7M, the East Cork Group were presented with the IRTS IOTA Trophy. They operated from Bere Island and the operators were Jerry EI6BT, John EI8IR and Dave EI4BZ.

The leading single operator was Jim Barry EI8GS and he was presented with the IRTS DX trophy. The highest scoring EI entrant in the 12 Hour CW section of the IOTA contest was Jeremy Sheehan EI5GM and he was presented with the Hal Hodgens Key.

The Tom Donelan (EI9BG) Trophy is awarded to the leading EI station in the CQ Worldwide CW Contest and this year it was presented to Dave EI4BZ. We will carry the list of winners of all the other operating awards in next weeks bulletin.

EuRadio

Arrangements are now in train for the eleven special event stations to mark the enlargement of the European Community on May 1st and 2nd.

Organisers will be fully briefed in the coming days on the arrangements being made centrally and on the contact details in the local authorities. Details of the awards associated with the special event stations have been circulated to the amateur radio press.

IRTS Committee Meeting

The new committee will meet in the Montague Hotel in Portlaoise on Saturday April the 3rd and the main item on the agenda will be the distribution of jobs for the coming year. Once again clubs are reminded that they may send representatives to all committee meetings.

ComReg Theory Exam

A theory exam took place at the ComReg offices on the 4th of February last. 16 people in total sat the exam and 11 were successful.

If anyone else would like to take the radio experimenters exam, they are asked to contact Derek O'Reilly at ComReg to register their interest. Once enough people are available, an exam will be scheduled.

Upcoming Events

The CQ WPX SSB contest will take place over next weekend and the European SSB Sprint will take place the following weekend. Please note that SDR will hold an inter club competition to tie in with the European Sprint. More details will follow soon.

The Spring Leg of the EI Counties Contest will take place on Easter Monday from 2 to 4 p.m. It is hoped that as many stations as possible take to the air for this event.

International Marconi Day is on Saturday the 24th of April and the Enniskillen Rally will take place on Sunday the 25th at the Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh.

6 Metres

Following a meeting between IRTS and ComReg representatives held on Wednesday February the 25th, the society is pleased to announce that it has secured the lifting of restrictions on the 6-metre band. All experimenters are now licensed to use this band with a power limit of 20dBW. We stress that there is no need to apply for specific permission to use the band.

Unfortunately, there is no change in the 4-metre band licensing requirements.

Enniskillen Rally

Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club hosts the 23rd Enniskillen Amateur Radio Show in the Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh on Sunday the 25th of April 2004. Doors open at 12.00 noon.

Car parking facilities and food will be available. Admission is £3.00, which includes free ticket for Raffle with valuable prizes. Bring & Buy with no fee. Amateur Radio, Electronics, Computers, traders big and small, equipment, accessories, components, new surplus and second-hand. Traditional large attendance expected from all over Ireland, north and south.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded Mark Wall EI7IS. He can be contacted by phone or text on 087-6302026 or news can also be submitted via e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed

news services.

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